



**For Release: Friday, August 10, 2018**

**18-1324-PHI**

MID-ATLANTIC INFORMATION OFFICE: Philadelphia, Pa.

Technical information: (215) 597-3282 BLSInfoPhiladelphia@bls.gov [www.bls.gov/regions/mid-atlantic](http://www.bls.gov/regions/mid-atlantic)

Media contact: (215) 861-5600 BLSMediaPhiladelphia@bls.gov

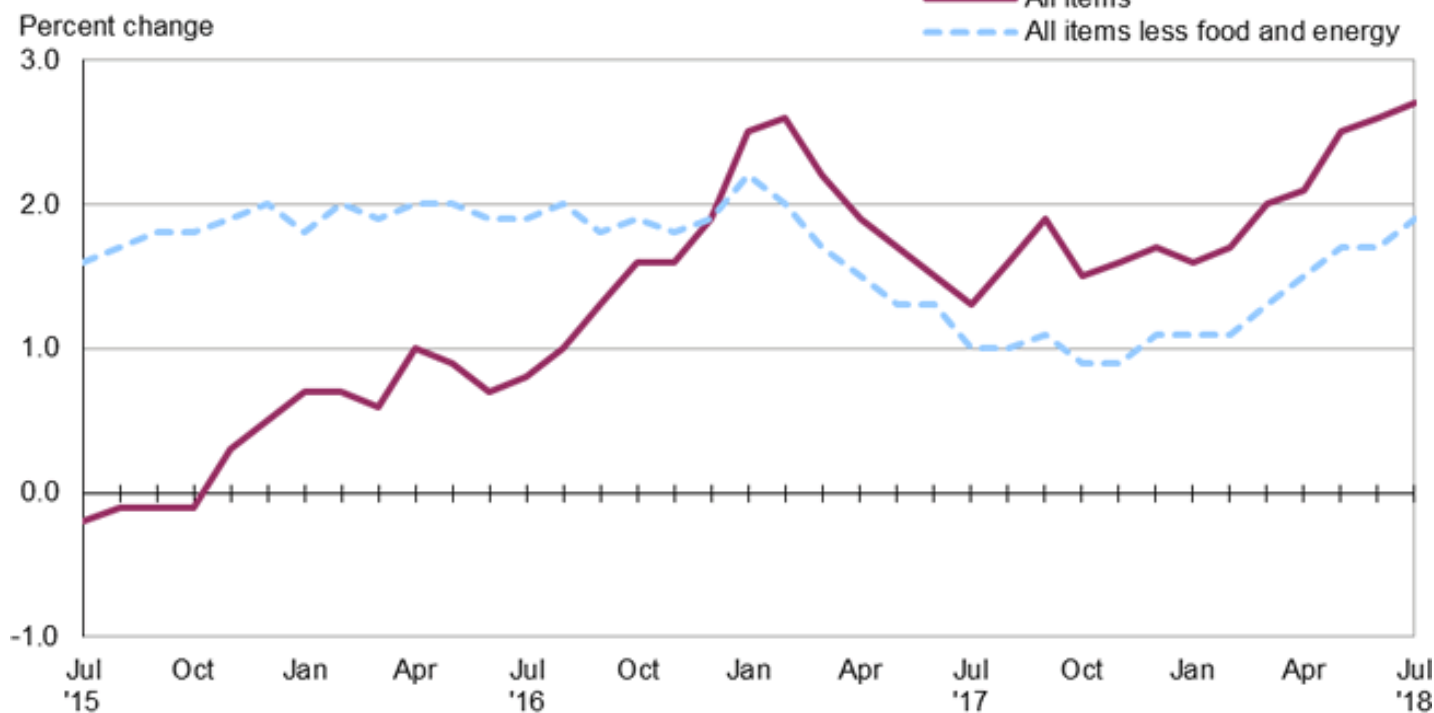
## **Consumer Price Index, Northeast Region – July 2018**

### **Regional prices unchanged over the month; up 2.7 percent over the year**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Northeast was unchanged in July, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau's regional commissioner, noted that a 0.7-percent decrease in the energy index was offset by a 0.4 percent increase in the food index. The all items less food and energy index was unchanged over the month. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the Northeast all items CPI-U increased 2.7 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) The all items less food and energy index led the advance, rising 1.9 percent. The energy index and the food index also rose, up 13.5 and 1.9 percent, respectively, since July 2017. (See [table 1](#).)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Northeast region, July 2015–July 2018**



## Food

The food index increased 0.4 percent since June as prices for food at home increased 0.6 percent. Food away from home prices also rose, inching up 0.1 percent.

From July 2017 to July 2018, the food index increased 1.9 percent. Prices for both food away from home and food at home increased over the year, up 2.9 and 1.2 percent, respectively.

## Energy

The energy index, which includes prices for household and transportation fuels, decreased 0.7 percent in July, led by a 1.3 percent decline in gasoline prices. Prices for electricity and utility (piped) gas service also decreased over the month, down 0.4 and 0.1 percent, respectively.

The energy index advanced 13.5 percent since July 2017. The increase reflected higher prices for gasoline, up 23.9 percent. Prices also increased over the year for utility (piped) gas service (6.1 percent) and electricity (2.0 percent).

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy was unchanged over the month. Lower prices for apparel (-2.5 percent), among others, were offset by higher prices for shelter (0.2 percent), new and used motor vehicles (0.5 percent), and education and communication (0.3 percent).

The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.9 percent since July 2017, led by higher prices for shelter, up 2.8 percent. Prices also rose over the year for medical care (2.0 percent), but were lower for apparel (-1.3 percent) and household furnishings and operations (-0.5 percent).

**Table A. Northeast region CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted**

Month	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January.....	0.6	1.5	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	0.7	0.6	2.5	0.5	1.6
February.....	0.1	1.0	0.2	-0.2	0.2	0.7	0.3	2.6	0.4	1.7
March.....	0.5	1.5	0.3	-0.4	0.2	0.6	-0.1	2.2	0.1	2.0
April.....	0.0	1.6	0.1	-0.3	0.6	1.0	0.3	1.9	0.4	2.1
May.....	0.4	2.0	0.4	-0.3	0.3	0.9	0.1	1.7	0.4	2.5
June.....	0.0	1.9	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.0	1.5	0.0	2.6
July.....	0.1	1.8	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.8	-0.2	1.3	0.0	2.7
August.....	-0.3	1.3	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	1.0	0.3	1.6		
September.....	0.0	1.2	0.0	-0.1	0.2	1.3	0.5	1.9		
October.....	-0.2	1.4	-0.2	-0.1	0.2	1.6	-0.1	1.5		
November.....	-0.4	0.9	0.0	0.3	0.0	1.6	0.0	1.6		
December.....	-0.5	0.4	-0.4	0.5	0.0	1.9	0.1	1.7		

**The Consumer Price Index for August 2018 is scheduled to be released Thursday, September 13, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).**

## Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 5,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.













































The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/cpi](http://www.bls.gov/cpi) and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf).

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **Note: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The Northeast region is comprised of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

















Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Northeast Region, (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted)**

Expenditure category	Indexes				Percent change from		
	Historical data	May 2018	Jun. 2018	Jul. 2018	Jul. 2017	May 2018	Jun. 2018
All items.....		265.840	265.950	265.830	2.7	0.0	0.0
All items (December 1977 = 100).....		418.617	418.790	418.601			
Food and beverages .....		259.256	259.463	260.347	1.8	0.4	0.3
Food .....		259.594	259.751	260.792	1.9	0.5	0.4
Food at home .....		248.220	248.297	249.803	1.2	0.6	0.6
Cereals and bakery products .....		291.749	294.591	293.679		0.7	-0.3
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....		250.683	250.865	253.426		1.1	1.0
Dairy and related products .....		224.775	226.589	227.522		1.2	0.4
Fruits and vegetables .....		312.553	309.281	311.877		-0.2	0.8
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials.....		172.688	173.388	173.237		0.3	-0.1
Other food at home .....		223.088	222.496	224.812		0.8	1.0
Food away from home.....		280.017	280.296	280.675	2.9	0.2	0.1
Alcoholic beverages .....		253.731	254.531	253.506	0.5	-0.1	-0.4
Housing .....		282.848	282.981	283.331	2.9	0.2	0.1
Shelter .....		349.926	350.467	351.001	2.8	0.3	0.2
Rent of primary residence(1).....		350.585	350.756	351.404	2.5	0.2	0.2
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(1)(2) .....		360.764	361.602	362.176	2.7	0.4	0.2
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(1)(2) .....		360.510	361.343	361.919	2.7	0.4	0.2
Fuels and utilities.....		230.903	230.698	230.350	5.6	-0.2	-0.2
Household energy .....		205.573	204.835	204.419	6.0	-0.6	-0.2
Energy services(1) .....		202.578	201.668	201.014	2.7	-0.8	-0.3
Electricity(1).....		209.697	209.370	208.488	2.0	-0.6	-0.4
Utility (piped) gas service(1).....		175.207	173.417	173.183	6.1	-1.2	-0.1
Household furnishings and operations.....		120.029	119.058	119.322	-0.5	-0.6	0.2
Apparel.....		133.571	127.969	124.772	-1.3	-6.6	-2.5
Transportation .....		210.975	211.842	210.687	6.0	-0.1	-0.5
Private transportation .....		202.964	203.986	203.643	7.1	0.3	-0.2
New and used motor vehicles(3).....		95.995	96.919	97.374	2.1	1.4	0.5
New vehicles .....		144.405	144.753	143.208	-0.4	-0.8	-1.1
New cars and trucks(3)(4).....		100.073	100.311	99.247	-0.4	-0.8	-1.1
New cars(4).....		133.281	134.122	132.623	-0.7	-0.5	-1.1
Used cars and trucks.....		144.337	144.905	146.608	1.1	1.6	1.2
Motor fuel .....		252.165	253.434	250.214	23.9	-0.8	-1.3
Gasoline (all types).....		251.143	252.382	249.152	23.9	-0.8	-1.3
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....		249.078	250.155	246.882	24.4	-0.9	-1.3
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....		262.082	264.991	261.981	21.7	0.0	-1.1
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4).....		254.886	257.071	254.288	20.1	-0.2	-1.1
Motor vehicle insurance(6).....		620.681	617.184	615.988		-0.8	-0.2
Medical care .....		504.921	504.804	504.541	2.0	-0.1	-0.1
Medical care commodities.....		391.666	391.864	390.243	0.7	-0.4	-0.4
Medical care services.....		537.377	537.165	537.320	2.3	0.0	0.0
Professional services .....		379.266	380.169	380.806	0.9	0.4	0.2
Recreation(3).....		123.315	124.030	123.961	-0.1	0.5	-0.1
Education and communication(3).....		140.123	140.936	141.292	1.6	0.8	0.3

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Northeast Region, (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted) - Continued**

Expenditure category		Indexes			Percent change from		
		Historical data	May 2018	Jun. 2018	Jul. 2018	Jul. 2017	May 2018
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(6) .....		1,210.763	1,218.826	1,220.420		0.8	0.1
Other goods and services .....		489.364	489.340	488.926	2.3	-0.1	-0.1
<b>Commodity and service group</b>							
Commodities .....		192.327	191.708	191.270	3.1	-0.5	-0.2
Commodities less food and beverages .....		155.449	154.544	153.618	4.1	-1.2	-0.6
Nondurables less food and beverages...		204.723	202.521	200.744	7.0	-1.9	-0.9
Durables .....		102.223	102.410	102.233	-0.1	0.0	-0.2
Services .....		336.839	337.595	337.754	2.5	0.3	0.0
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>							
All items less shelter .....		236.926	236.876	236.513	2.6	-0.2	-0.2
All items less medical care .....		255.345	255.465	255.352	2.8	0.0	0.0
Commodities less food .....		159.061	158.200	157.267	3.9	-1.1	-0.6
Nondurables .....		232.416	231.301	230.734	4.2	-0.7	-0.2
Nondurables less food .....		207.557	205.535	203.805	6.5	-1.8	-0.8
Services less rent of shelter(2) .....		334.401	335.405	335.164	2.1	0.2	-0.1
Services less medical care services .....		323.016	323.838	323.997	2.5	0.3	0.0
Energy .....		224.829	224.930	223.343	13.5	-0.7	-0.7
All items less energy .....		272.698	272.809	272.843	1.9	0.1	0.0
All items less food and energy .....		276.756	276.860	276.730	1.9	0.0	0.0

**Footnotes**

- (1) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.
- (2) Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.
- (3) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.
- (4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.
- (5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.
- (6) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.
- Note: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.